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The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I cannot answer the question as to what the Government of India have done."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know from the hon. the Revenue Member whether the confidential nature of the correspondence arose from the fact that the Government of India have imposed it, or this Government itself has imposed it ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It has been already answered."

## Public Service

*Application of Government Orders regarding unpassed men even to permanent officials.*

* 1158-A Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the several Government Orders on unpassed men apply even to persons permanently exempted by the Government and appointed to substantial posts on the same footing as passed men before the issue of the said Government Orders ;

(*b*) whether Government Orders were intended to be applied with retrospective effect and whether there were any special notifications or orders directing the heads of departments to give such retrospective effect to the said Government Orders ;

(*c*) if so, whether the said notifications or orders will be placed on the table of the House ;

(*d*) if no Government Orders or notifications have been issued to the effect mentioned in clause (*b*) on what authority and on what grounds the heads of departments have been applying the said Government Orders and notifications to cases of men who were granted general and permanent exemptions by Government and confirmed in their appointments on higher scales of pay, years prior to the issue of the Government Orders in question ; and

(*e*) what are the reasons for giving retrospective effect to such Government Orders and applying them even to cases where the unpassed men were given permanent general exemptions, were appointed to substantial and higher posts, were confirmed in their appointments and were allowed to draw several increments long prior to the issue of the Government Orders in question ?

*A.*—(*a*), (*b*), (*c*), (*d*) & (*e*) If the hon. Member will indicate more precisely the orders or the cases he has in mind the Government will be able to answer the questions. They are not aware of any orders of the Government or of heads of departments which would be correctly described in the language of the questions.

*Statement showing the number of exempted unpassed clerks in South Kanara and some other districts.*

* 1158-B Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(i) to place before the Council a statement showing the number and names of all exempted unpassed clerks still in service after having passed the

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efficiency bar in the districts of South Kanara, Malabar, Nilgiris, Coimbatore and Salem who had been exempted permanently from 1913 onwards from the operation of article 1 of the Public Service Notification with the privilege of appearing for all special tests with a view to qualify for higher service but in whose cases the privilege of higher promotion has been barred recently within the last two years; and.

(ii) to state

(*a*) whether there are cases of clerks still in service who have passed the efficiency bar and are still prevented from rising higher than the present lower grade on account of the recent orders cancelling the privilege which they had before;

(*b*) whether there are any statutory orders and rules issued by the Secretary of State to the Imperial and Local Governments not to cancel any privileges already granted by those Governments, and if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place them before the Council;

(*c*) under what circumstances and under what orders the privileges aforesaid once permanently granted were cancelled; and

(*d*) how many and which of these clerks have passed the special tests in the hope of bettering their prospects and which of them have suffered on account of the set-back by cancellation of their privileges?

*A.*—(i) & (ii) (*d*) The hon. Member has based his questions on some misapprehension. Prior to the recent introduction of the incremental scales of pay there was no efficiency bar. Promotion was by selection from grade to grade. After the introduction of the incremental scales and the prescription of an efficiency bar, there has been no case where a clerk permitted to pass the efficiency bar has been denied further progress in the incremental scale applicable to his case.

(ii) (*a*) & (*c*) The reference to "the privilege that they had before" is not understood. Clerks who have received special exemption to rise to the top of the lower incremental scale must obtain a further exemption before they can be promoted to a post on a higher incremental scale.

(*b*) It is a condition of the rules delegating to Local Governments power to frame rules regarding conditions of service, pay, allowances and pensions of provincial and subordinate services that the rights of persons already in the service should not be affected. This does not give any subordinate, least of all an unqualified subordinate, any right of promotion.

## Reforms

*Submission of a further memorandum to the Simon Commission by the Madras Government.*

* 1159 *Q.*—Mr. S. Satyamurti: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Madras Government intend submitting a further memorandum to the Simon Commission on the nature and extent of future political reforms in the province;